

REMARKS

In the present amendment, the following amendments have been made:

The claims have been amended by incorporating the subject matter of allowable claim 2 into claim 1 and deleting claims 2 and 6. The corrections noted by the examiner have been made. It is believed that all of the claims (1, 3-5) are now allowable.

The specification has been amended in order to correct the inaccuracies noted by the examiner and to make other technical and typographical corrections in the specification. In addition, a reference to a new FIG. 4 has been added to the specification in order to illustrate the features described in the specification and claimed in FIG. 5.

The drawings have been amended by adding a new FIG. 4 and by substituting formal drawings for the informal drawings presently in the case. Numeral 120 referred to in the specification has been added to FIG. 2B. No new matter has been added.

It is urged that the application is now in proper form for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The following remarks are provided in further support of the allowability of the present application.

US 2,851,170, US 3,998,488, US 4,950,012, US 5,431,470, US 4,286,817, US 3,521,924, US 3,879,077 and US 1,549,248 each disclose a mechanism for lifting/lowering the C-shaped frame (or other shape frame) and for lifting lowering the plate.

The examiner asserts that claims 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are neither novel nor inventive in respect of the citations. In particular, the examiner's opinion is that US 2,851,170 discloses the hoist defined in claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and also the examiner's opinion is that US 2,851,170 in view of US 3,998,488 discloses the hoist defined in claim 5.

US 2,851,170 discloses a loading mechanism comprising a generally C-shape frame **10**, a sliding means **24**, a lifting cable **36**, and hooking means **46,48**, having a portion **46**, that can be adjusted relative to the lower arm of the frame (see col. 2, lines 66-68).

The mechanism disclosed in each of the citations is very different from the invention defined in claim 1.

Claim 1 defines a hoist comprising “a lifting cable for connecting to a crane wherein said lifting cable is used also to adjust the distance of said hook from said frame when said frame is lodged on a floor”. Support of claim 1 may be found at pages 4 and 5 of the description whereby “Tile **110** represents the floor on which the hoist rests. Once the hoist is lodged on the floor **110**, cable **112** can be slackened without affecting the position of the hoist. However, such slackening translates into lowering the hook **114**. As can be seen in the figure, pulleys **116** and **118** are departed since pulley **118** is not connected to frame **120**, but rather to hook **114**. Tensioning of lifting cable **112** results in hook **114** being drawn up, providing that the force applied is strong enough to lift up the hook and suspended material tray (not shown). Lifting up of the hook may occur until pulley **118** abuts on pulley **116**. If the cable is tensioned further, the hoist may be lifted off the subtending floor providing that the tensioning force can overcome the suspended weight 11.

As the examiner has indicated, the citations do not disclose “a lifting cable for connecting to crane wherein said lifting cable is used also to adjust the distance of said hook from said frame when said frame is lodged on a floor”, which is an important feature of the present invention. The indication by the examiner that claim 2 is allowable over the citations is gratefully acknowledged.

As a result, amended claim 1, which incorporates claim 2, is allowable over the citations. Consequently the dependent claims 3-5 are also allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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